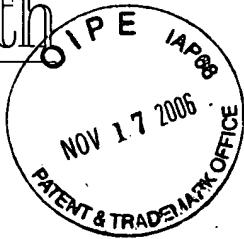


IFW

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November 16, 2006

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/576,677  
Filed: April 21, 2006  
For: *Multilayer Film*  
Inventor(s): Yamazaki, et al.  
Our ref.: 358275.30004

Dear Sir/Madam:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified National Phase application.

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO 1449;
3. Sixteen (16) cited references; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the filing date and returned to our courier.

Respectfully submitted,

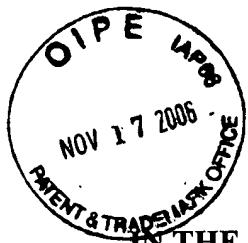
REED SMITH, LLP  
  
Mark R. Shanks  
Reg. No. 33,781

MRS:sg  
Enclosures

LONDON ♦ NEW YORK ♦ LOS ANGELES ♦ SAN FRANCISCO ♦ WASHINGTON, D.C. ♦ PHILADELPHIA ♦ PITTSBURGH ♦ OAKLAND  
PRINCETON ♦ FALLS CHURCH ♦ WILMINGTON ♦ NEWARK ♦ MIDLANDS, U.K. ♦ CENTURY CITY ♦ RICHMOND ♦ LEESBURG

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Att'y Dkt. No.: 358275.30004  
U.S. App. No.: 10/576,677

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YAMAZAKI, et al

Appl. No.: 10/576,677

Filing Date: April 21, 2006

Title: Multilayer Film

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Atty. Docket: 358275.30004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present patent application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will review art of record in all 35 U.S.C. § 120 priority documents.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

2. The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

c. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicants hereby petition that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information on this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification. See pages 2-4 of the specification of the present application.

5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application.  A copy of a search report issued in the foreign application is attached.  An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. M.P.E.P. § 609 (A)(3).

6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s)  is attached hereto or  appears below.

7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_ , filed \_\_\_\_ , which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. \_\_\_\_ , filed \_\_\_\_ , which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

9. Other: Documents were cited in the International Search Report.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. **50-0622**

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH LLP

By:

  
Mark R. Shanks  
Reg. No. 33,781

Date: 11/16/06

3110 Fairview Park Drive  
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Falls Church, VA 22042  
703-641-4200

32256  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Form PTO 1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant		ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER 358275.30004	SERIAL NUMBER 10/576,677
		APPLICANT YAMAZAKI, et. al.	
		FILING DATE April 21, 2006	GROUP

U.S. Patent Documents						
Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	5,574,096	12/11/1996	Tanaka, et al.			22/09/1994
	5,498,662	12/03/1996	Tanaka, et al.			18/10/1994
	5,560,988	01/10/1996	Oba, et al.			25/01/1995
	5,552,479	03/09/1996	Tanaka, et al.			24/01/1994
	6,605,344B1	12/08/2003	Ohba, et al			13/04/1999
	6,022,913	08/02/2000	Tanaka, et al.			05/09/1997
	5,112,673	12/05/1992	Sawada, et al.			05/12/1989

## Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	FILING DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	No
	05-262958	27/09/1993	Japan			Abstract	X
	06-194940	27/07/1994	Japan			Abstract	X
	06-023735	26/01/1994	Japan			Abstract	X
	05-031404	27/01/1993	Japan			Abstract	X
	11-104523	12/04/1999	Japan			Abstract	X
	09-256216	05/09/1997	Japan			Abstract	X
	01-304485	22/11/1989	Japan			Abstract	X
	2002-098564	01/04/2002	Japan			Abstract	X

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	International Search Report
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant*